EXHIBIT 58

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	Page 1
1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
3	EASTERN DIVISION
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6	
7	IN RE: NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION MDL No. 2804
	OPIATE LITIGATION
8	Case No.
	17-md-2804
9	
	Judge Dan Aaron
10	Polster
11	This document relates to:
12	The County of Summit, Ohio, et al. v. Purdue
	Pharma L.P., et al.
13	
	Case No. 18-OP-45090 (N.D. Ohio)
14	
15	
	~~~~~~~~~~~
16	
	Videotaped Deposition of
17	
1.0	JEFFREY STURMI
18	77
1.0	November 15, 2018
19	9:09 a.m.
20	
21	Welton at t
2.2	Taken at:
22	Hilton Garden Inn
23	
<b>∠</b> 5	1307 East Market Street
24	Akron, Ohio
24 25	Stephen J. DeBacco, RPR
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- 1 to the number of clients that are screened for
- 2 the program, the number of clients that
- 3 declined the program, number of clients that
- 4 were found ineligible for the program,
- 5 certainly clients that are admitted to the
- 6 program, and then general tracking data as far
- 7 as retention success rates, graduation, you
- 8 know, rates, that type of data.
- Q. Do you have access to that data
- 10 maintained by Oriana House for the recovery 11 court?
- 12 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form of 13 the question.
- A. I have access to it, so if I have
- 15 specific data questions, then, yes, I would
- 16 contact the Oriana House to make whatever
- 17 request, you know, was necessary.
- Q. Do you know in what format they
- 19 maintain the recovery court data?
- 20 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.
- 21 A. I have no knowledge of what their
- 22 database is or their capabilities.
- Q. Does Oriana House have any
- 24 requirements for providing reports to the
- 25 recovery court?

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- MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.
- 2 A. I'm not aware of specific
- 3 requirements other than, you know, if the judge
- 4 or myself, you know, requests data, that it's 5 provided in a timely manner.
- Q. To whom do you make data requests 7 at Oriana House?
- A. Typically to Emily Beers, who is
- 9 the Oriana House program manager for drug 10 court.
- Q. Now, Mr. Sturmi, if I could ask you 11
- 12 to turn to the next page, which ends in 3387.
- 13 Okay.
- 14 Q. About halfway through the last
- 15 paragraph it says, "Many of our clients are
- 16 dually diagnosed and so we welcome the
- 17 opportunity to partner with our Summit County
- 18 mental health treatment providers."
- Have I read that correctly? 19
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. How do you understand the reference 21
- 22 to dually diagnosed?
- 23 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.
- 24 A. My understanding of that term would
- 25 be someone that is diagnosed with both a

- 1 substance abuse and a mental health disorder.
- Q. Do you know what proportion of the 3 current recovery court population would qualify
- 4 as dually diagnosed?
- 5 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.
  - A. I would say a lot.
- 7 Q. Could you give us a percentage?
  - MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.
- 9 A. It would be difficult for -- for me
- 10 to -- to give a percentage, but I would say
- 11 it's the majority. It's a lot.
- 12 Q. Where would that dual diagnosis be 13 reported?
- 14 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.
- 15 A. Primarily the initial assessment,
- 16 which not only provides a diagnosis of a
- 17 person's substance abuse, but it would also
- 18 provide a diagnosis for mental health disorder.
- Q. Does the recovery court provide 19
- 20 referrals for mental health services in
- 21 addition to addiction treatment services?
- 22 A. We --
- 23 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.
  - You can answer.
- 25 A. We do.

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- Q. Who are the providers with whom you 1 2 partner for mental health services?
- A. It's expanded, you know, over the
- 4 years. Primarily in Summit County, it's two
- 5 agencies. Community Support Services, they
- 6 primarily work with clients that have a severe
- 7 or serious mental health disorder. The second
- 8 agency that we work with quite a bit is called
- 9 Portage Path Behavioral Health, but there have
- 10 been some additional vendors that have started
- 11 to be added to the Akron area.
- 12 Q. In connection with your work for
- 13 the recovery court, have you kept any data
- 14 which tracks the number of clients who are
- 15 dually diagnosed with addiction and mental
- 16 health illness?
- 17 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form of 18 the question.
- 19 A. Not to my knowledge, no.
- 20 Q. Do you know where we could look if
- 21 we wanted to find that information?
- 22 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.
- 23 A. I'm not aware, you know, of -- of
- 24 where that particular, you know, data could be 25 obtained, other than, you know, the Oriana

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- 1 House, you know, Incorporated. Again, if the
- 2 client is diagnosed with a mental health
- 3 disorder, that would be recorded on their
- 4 substance abuse assessment.
- Q. Are you aware of any literature
- 6 which links substance abuse with mental
- 7 illness?
- MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form of 8 9 the question.
- 10 A. I'm not sure what you mean by that.
- Q. Are you aware of any literature
- 12 which finds a cause between mental health
- 13 illnesses and addiction?
- MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form of
- 15 the question.
- 16 A. I'm not aware of any specific
- 17 documentation. I think that there's general
- 18 consensus that often those run hand in hand.
- Q. And when you reference general
- 20 consensus, whose consensus are you referencing?
- 21 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.
- 22 A. Oh, the various training workshops,
- 23 you know, that I've attended, you know, have
- 24 spoken to that. Just by my experience by
- 25 interviewing the number of clients that I've

- Page 136 1 consistently, constantly asking questions with
  - 2 our clients to determine their needs, because
- 3 their needs change. Their needs change from
- 4 the date of the assessment to the next month
- 5 and the month thereafter.
- 6 So that is where, you know, I base 7 that response on.
- 8 Q. Over what period of time have you
- 9 observed an increase in the needs of the
- 10 recovery court population?
  - A. Well, I don't think, you know,
- 12 from -- from my perspective, my opinion is
- 13 they've significantly increased since we've had
- 14 to deal with the opiate epidemic that is
- 15 present here in Summit County.
- Q. What do you mean by "opiate
- 17 epidemic" in that last response?
- A. As our -- as numbers -- well, just
- 19 in reference to when the Summit County ADM
- 20 Board and our treatment providers started to
- 21 see a significant increase in the amount of
- 22 clients that we serve with an opiate use
- 23 disorder, as that related to increase in
- 24 arrests, as that related to, sadly, a huge
- 25 increase in overdose and deaths in Summit

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- 1 interviewed, seeing the increase in high-risk,
- 2 high-need offenders whom we are targeting, you
- 3 know, in recovery court. The clients that
- 4 we're serving today are much more in need of
- 5 services than they were 10 years ago.
- Q. To what do you account that
- 7 increase in the need for services in the
- 8 recovery court client population?
- A. At the present time?
- Q. Well, do you track the reason for 10
- 11 increases in client needs?
- 12 A. Not --
- 13 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form of
- 14 the question.
- 15 A. Not in a -- in a data-related
- 16 manner, but certainly in the multitude of
- 17 interviews that me and our staff conducts, you
- 18 know, that's certainly always a part of those
- 19 questions.
- 20 Q. So you're talking about an
- 21 impressionistic view of the increase in needs;
- 22 is that right?
- 23 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.
- 24 A. What I would say is myself and
- 25 members of our recovery court team are

- Page 137
- 1 County, that -- that information, obviously,
- 2 was available, and once it started to become an
- 3 issue, then our county, you know, helped, you
- 4 know, to -- to identify that.
- O. Was there ever a time that opiate
- 6 use, to use your term, was not a problem in
- 7 Akron?
- 8 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.
- A. I'm sure there's always been some
- 10 level of an opiate, you know, use issue in
- 11 Summit County. However, that dramatically
- 12 changed here in Summit County, you know,
- 13 roughly six years ago, in that ballpark, we
- 14 started to see those increases.
- 15 In particular, you know, the Summit
- 16 County ADM Board formed an Opiate Task Force.
- 17 I believe that started in 2014. So that was a
- 18 pretty clear sign, you know, when the agency
- 19 that is charged with that task to help all of
- 20 our treatment providers, when they formed the
- 21 Summit County Opiate Task Force, that was a
- 22 clue, you know, that we had a major issue going
- 23 on.
- 24 Q. What is the dramatic change that
- 25 happened around 2012 that you referenced in

Page 140 Page 138 1 your last answer? 1 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form. 2 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form of A. I would think the Akron Police 3 Department or the Akron Municipal Court's 3 the question. 4 Information System. We term that as AMCIS. A. I would say when courts, treatment 5 agencies started to identify more and more 5 Q. Do you personally have access to 6 AMCIS? 6 clients that were coming to their attention for 7 having an opiate use disorder, that was 7 A. Yes. 8 Q. To your knowledge, does AMCIS 8 exacerbated by overdose, whether that client 9 categorize law enforcement encounters by the 9 lived or died, you know. So data has always 10 type of drug involved? 10 been received by the -- by the coroner's 11 office, but that information started that A. No, not to my knowledge. It's a --12 it's an older, somewhat antiquated database. 12 process. 13 Q. So if we wanted to verify the 13 Q. What data are you referring to 14 number of arrests that involved an opioid 14 which reflects an increase in the number of 15 substance, how would we do that? 15 individuals with an opiate use disorder? MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form of MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form. 16 17 A. The data that -- that I would --17 the question. A. That would be a question you'd have 18 would come back to is, again, the countless 18 19 to ask an IT person. 19 interviews that I've conducted or our recovery 20 court staff have conducted with clients that 20 Q. Do you know of any system to which 21 you have access, which tracks law enforcement 21 are reporting opiate use disorders. 22 Combine that with arrest rates, 22 encounters based on the drug involved? 23 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form. 23 charges, and in particular, overdose data, 24 You can answer. 24 that's what led, I would think, the Summit 25 25 County ADM Board, you know, to sound the alarm. A. I don't have knowledge of that, no. Page 139 Page 141 Q. When you said the Summit County ADM 1 Q. You also mentioned reported opioid 1 2 Board sounded the alarm, what specific actions 2 use disorders by clients. Can you identify any 3 are you referencing? 3 aggregate data source which reflects the number 4 of reported opioid -- op- -- excuse me, opioid A. The -- the start of -- of the 5 use disorders by recovery court clients? 5 Summit County Opiate Task Force. MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form of Q. Other than the start of the Summit 6 7 the question. 7 County Opiate Task Force, what facts do you 8 reference in connection with your statement 8 A. Not a specific database, no. Q. Is there anywhere that we could 9 that the opiate epidemic started in 2012? 10 look in order to identify the number of 10 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form. 11 recovery court reported -- recovery court A. Again, I would just come back to 12 what I've already indicated. You know, we saw 12 client opioid use disorders? 13 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form. 13 a marked increase in arrests. We saw a marked 14 A. I can't speak to whether the Oriana 14 increase in clients that were reporting opiate 15 use disorders. And that information, you know, 15 House does or does not track that information. 16 was supported by data that we received from 16 Q. Does the recovery court track that 17 Summit County ADM Board as it related to 17 information? 18 overdoses. 18 A. Not specifically, no. Q. Mr. Sturmi, you mentioned a marked 19 Q. Does it generally? MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form. 20 increase in arrests. Do you mean arrests 20 21 related to opioid substances? 21 A. Not at the present time. 22 22 Q. The last data source that you A. Certainly in some occasions, yes. 23 referenced was ADM overdose death reports; is Q. Where would we look at data which 24 tracks an increase in arrests related to opioid 24 that right?

36 (Pages 138 - 141)

25

That's correct.

25 encounters?

Q. How is that information reported?

2 A. The Summit County Public Health

3 district collects that data in -- in

4 communication with the Summit County medical

5 examiner's office.

Q. Does the overdose data maintained

7 by ADM identify the drugs involved in the

8 overdose?

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9 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.

10 A. I can't speak to that. You'd have

11 to, you know, inquire with, you know, the

12 agencies that oversee that data.

Q. Are there any other sources of data

14 which lead you to formulate your opinion that

15 the opioid -- opiate epidemic began in 2012?

MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form. 17 A. I use that as a benchmark. It's

18 very difficult to look at a calendar and

19 pinpoint a specific day, you know, that, you

20 know, this particular issue, you know, started

21 in our community.

22 But as -- as I look at, you know,

23 the calendar and looking at those other factors

24 in speaking with the various colleagues that I

25 work with, and the fact that the Summit County

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1 work -- well, I started in '96, you know, so

2 you're saying late 1990s?

Q. Correct.

4 A. Okay. I wasn't aware, in the first

5 two or three years of my career with the City

6 of Akron, that it was a specific, you know,

7 problem that it is -- or what I perceive it to

8 be -- today or in the recent past years.

Q. But as a probation officer in the

10 late 1990s in Summit County, you had encounters

11 with clients who used opioids, correct?

12 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.

13 A. I had clients that -- that used any

14 number, you know, of substances, and opiates,

15 you know, certainly was one of them.

Q. In the -- the data sources that you

17 referenced, do you know if there's any

18 reporting or distinction drawn between

19 prescription opioids and non-prescription

20 opioids?

21 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.

22 A. I'm not aware of any specific tool

23 that identifies that.

24 Q. Is that -- is that distinction

25 between prescription opioids and

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1 ADM Board started an Opiate Task Force in 2014,

2 you know, that's where I base that information

3 from.

4 Q. Earlier today you testified that

5 when you worked as a juvenile probation

6 officer, you had clients that abused opioids;

7 is that correct?

8 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form of

9 the question.

10 A. That's my recollection, yes.

Q. Do you believe that there was a

12 problem with opioid abuse in Akron in the late

13 1990s?

14 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form of

15 the question.

A. I can't speak to that because I

17 didn't work for the City of Akron at that time.

18 Q. I -- I apologize. Let me rephrase

19 that question.

20 Do you believe that there was a

21 problem with opioid abuse in Summit County in

22 the late 1990s?

23 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form of

24 the question.

25 A. Again, I -- I didn't -- I didn't Page 145

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1 non-prescription opioids important to your work

2 with the recovery court?

3 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.

A. I think that any information that

5 we glean from our clients is -- is helpful

6 as -- as we determine the best way to provide

7 services to them.

So knowing whether they started,

9 you know, with prescription medication or

10 medications that they purchased on the street

11 is -- is helpful, you know, to our team.

12 Q. Do you have any system for tracking

13 the number of clients that were introduced to 14 prescription opioids with a valid prescription?

15 MS. LEYIMU: Object to the form.

16 A. Not a specific, you know,

17 instrument that we use or a data collection

18 tool, no. 19 Q. Is there a gener- -- general data

20 collection tool you use?

21 A. Not that I'm aware of, no.

MS. WU: All right. So I'd like to

23 mark -- have the court reporter mark as

24 Exhibit 6, AKRON 001109379.

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